

Application No. 09/628,880
Filed: July 31, 2000
TC Art Unit: 2155
Confirmation No.: 4970

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for enabling information associations, comprising:

 parsing a document, said document including a number of objects;

 forming a list of those of said objects ~~in said document~~ for which related information is available and presenting said list to a user;

 detecting selection of one of said objects in said list by said user;

 searching a database for information regarding said selected one of said objects in said list; and

 displaying information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list to said user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing visual indication to said user of those of said objects in said document within said list.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

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detecting an operation in which said document is loaded into an application program; and

wherein said forming of said list of said objects for which related information is available is responsive to said detecting of said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program, and wherein said forming of said list comprises comparing objects within said document with entries in a dictionary data structure.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said forming of said list further comprises including one of said objects within said document in said list in the event that said object within said document matches one of said entries in said dictionary.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document in to said application program comprises downloading of said document onto a local system using a browser program.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document into said application program comprises loading said document into a word processor program.

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7. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said loading of said document into said application program comprises loading said document into an email program.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list comprises indication of at least one related resource, and further comprising:

detecting selection of said indication of said at least one related resource by said user; and

outputting content associated with said at least one related resource in response to said detecting selection of said indication of said at least one related resource.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said indication of said at least one related resource comprises a uniform resource locator associated with said related resource.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one related resource from said data base comprises streaming audio information.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said at least one related resource from said data base comprises streaming video information.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

monitoring user activities on a local system, said user activities indicating whether a user of said local system is interested in said document;

determining a rating of said document in response to said monitoring of said activities on said local system; and

storing said rating of said document in association with said document, wherein said rating determines, at least in part, a likelihood that said document will be displayed in response to a search of said database.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product including a computer readable medium, said computer readable medium having program code stored thereon, said program code comprising:

program code for parsing a document, said document including a number of objects;

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program code for forming a list of those of said objects in said document for which related information is available and presenting said list to a user;

program code for detecting selection of one of said objects in said list by said user;

program code for searching a database for information regarding said selected one of said objects in said list; and

program code for displaying information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list to said user.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising program code for providing visual indication to said user of those of said object in said document within said list.

15. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising:

program code for detecting an operation in which said document is loaded into an application program; and

wherein said program code for forming said list of said objects for which related information is available is responsive to said program code for detecting said operation in which said

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document is loaded into an application program, and wherein said forming of said list comprises comparing objects within said document with entries in a dictionary data structure.

16. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for forming said list further comprises program code for including one of said objects in said document in said list in the event that said one of said objects in said document matches one of said entries in said dictionary.

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting downloading of said document onto a local system through a browser program.

18. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting loading of said document into a word processor.

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19. (Original) The computer program product of claim 15, wherein said program code for detecting said operation in which said document is loaded into said application program comprises program code for detecting loading of said document into an email program.

20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list comprises indication of at least one related resource, and further comprising:

program code for detecting selection of said indication of said at least one related resource by said user; and

program code for outputting content associated with said at least one related resource in response to said program code for detecting selection of said indication of said at least one related resource.

21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said indication of said at least one resource comprises a uniform resource locator associated with said related resource.

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22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said related resource from said data base comprises streaming audio information.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein said related resource from said data base comprises streaming video information.

24. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, further comprising:

program code for monitoring user activities on a local system, said activities indicating whether a user of said local system is interested in said document;

program code for determining a rating of said document in response to said monitoring of said activities on said local system; and

program code for storing said rating of said document in association with said document, wherein said rating determines, at least in part, a likelihood that said document will be displayed in response to a search of said database.

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25. (Currently Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, said computer data signal including a computer program, said computer program comprising:

program code for parsing a document, said document including a number of objects;

program code for forming a list of those of said objects in said document for which related information is available and for presenting said list to a user;

program code for detecting selection of one of said objects in said list by said user;

program code for searching a database for information regarding said selected one of said objects in said list; and

program code for displaying information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list to said user.

26. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling information associations, comprising:

a client computer system, said client computer system including a processor coupled to a memory;

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an information association utility loaded in said memory and executable on said processor, said information association utility operable to

parse a document, said document including a number of objects,

form a list of those of said objects in said document for which related information is available and present said list to a user;

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detect selection of one of said objects in said list by said user;

search a database for information regarding said selected one of said objects in said list; and

display information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list to said user.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, said computer data signal including a computer program, said computer program comprising:

means for parsing a document, said document including a number of objects;

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means for forming a list of those of said objects in said document for which related information is available and for presenting said list to a user;

means for detecting selection of one of said objects in said list by said user;

means for searching a database for information regarding said selected one of said objects in said list; and

means for displaying information from said database related to said selected one of said objects in said list to said user.